

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the above identified application is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action dated 6/1/04 the Examiner rejected all of the pending claims 1-17. The Office Action and the references cited therein have been carefully considered and the above amendment is presented in an effort to advance prosecution of the application.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 7, 11-13 and 16-17 as anticipated by US Patent 6,412,259 (Wiegert et al). The Examiner also rejected claims 1, 8-9, 11-13 and 16-17 as anticipated by US Patent 3,462,928 (Schreiner et al). The Examiner also rejected claims 1-17 as anticipated by US Patent 2,538,965 (Ferguson).

Applicant has amended claim 1 and 11 to more specifically clarify that "complementary fashion" means in "an opposite manner" as stated in paragraph 7 of the Specification as originally filed.

Thus, the structural elements in Claim 1, for example, are not taught or suggested in the cited references, either singly or in combination. For example, there is no teaching or suggestion that "the diameter of the roll body (60) changes over its length, and that the distance of the outer edges of the drivers (62) from the roll body changes in an opposite manner" as set forth in Claim 1

In Wiegert, the working surfaces on rollers 10 and 11 have a constant height (see Col 3, lines 11-16.)

In Schreiner, in Figure 3, the roll body 50 and the radial flutes 53 increase in diameter in the same manner.

In Ferguson in the "ear-snapping section 4" identified by the Examiner, it is unclear from the drawings and the description what is taught (or suggested.) At 14, for example, the roll body diameter and the rib height both appear to increase. Yet at 15, the body diameter appears to have decreased and the rib height appears to have increased. There is no explanation or description in Ferguson to address or clarify this inconsistency.

Therefore the rejection of all the claims under 35 USC 102 as anticipated should be withdrawn.

Additionally claims 16 and 17 have been amended to depend from claim 14. Thus, the rejection under 35 USC 112 as indefinite should be withdrawn.

Thus, all the rejections of the claims have been overcome. Therefore this application is in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully requested.

Any fees or charges due as a result of filing of the present communication may be charged against Deposit Account 04-0525.

Respectfully,


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